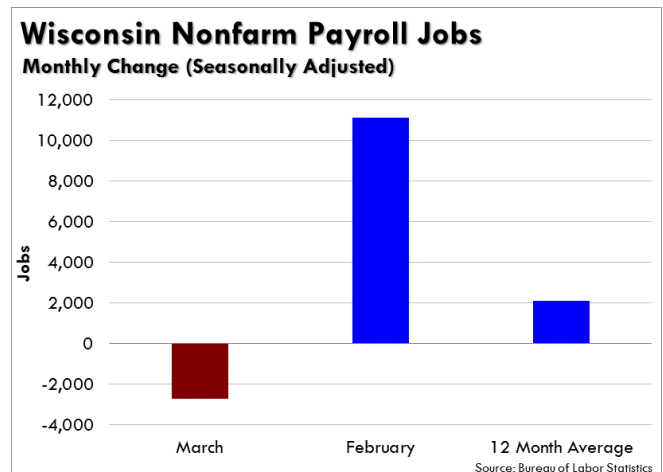
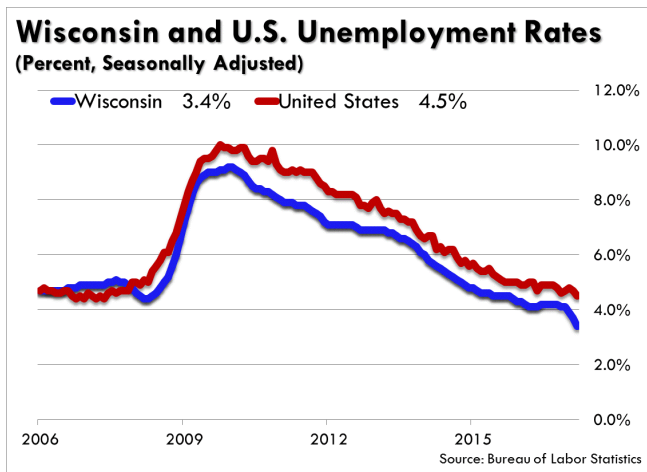


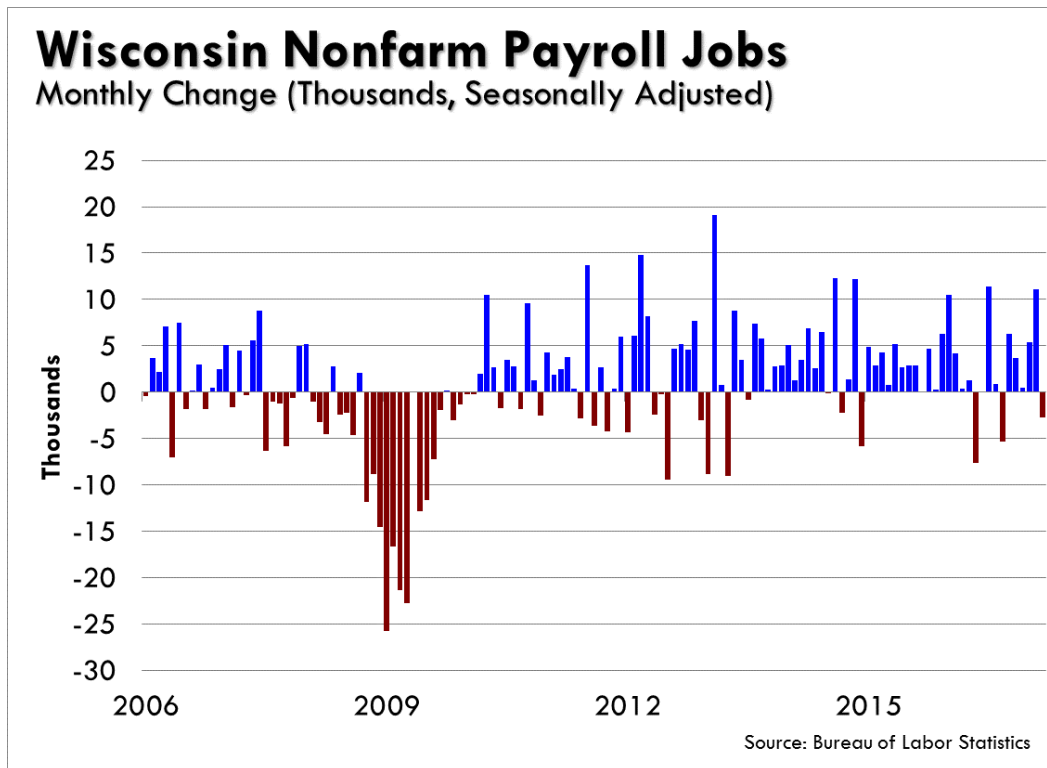


April 23, 2017

## Summary

- **Wisconsin lost 2,700 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.3 percentage point to 3.4 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Wisconsin added 25,100 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.7 percentage point from 4.1 percent.
- **In March, Wisconsin's private sector added 500 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 22,100 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Wisconsinites fell by 10,246 in March**, and over the past year 45,036 Wisconsinites found jobs.
- Wisconsin's **labor force participation rate increased to 68.4 percent** from 68.3 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.2 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





## **Wisconsin Payroll Employment**

Wisconsin lost 2,700 jobs, or 0.09 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Wisconsin added 11,100 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Wisconsin increased by 25,100, or 0.86 percent. Wisconsin nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Wisconsin ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

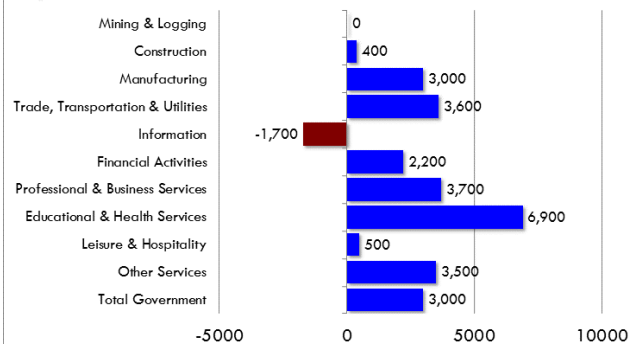
During March, Wisconsin's private-sector added 500 jobs, or 0.02 percent. The private-sector in Wisconsin added 8,300 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Wisconsin increased by 22,100, or 0.88 percent. Wisconsin private-sector payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Wisconsin ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Professional & Business Services (+3,200) and Educational & Health Services (+800). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Total Government (-3,200) and Leisure & Hospitality (-2,100).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Educational & Health Services (+6,900) and Professional & Business Services (+3,700). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Information (-1,700) and Mining & Logging (unchanged).

**Change in Wisconsin Payroll Employment by Sector over Past 12 Months**



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, seasonally adjusted.

## Wisconsin Labor Force Statistics

### *Labor Force Participation*

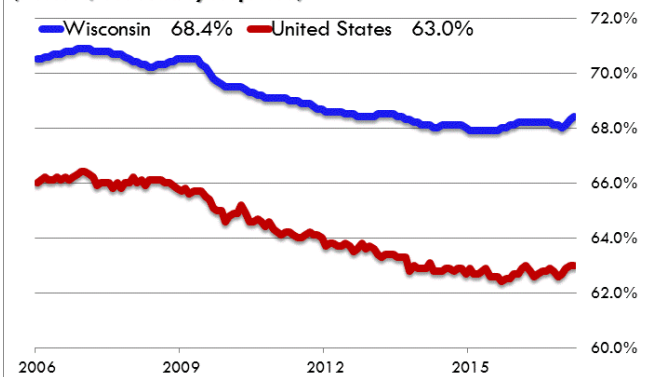
The labor force participation rate in Wisconsin rose to 68.4 percent in March from 68.3 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 8 have a higher labor force participation rate than Wisconsin. The labor force participation rate in Wisconsin is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Wisconsin was 70.8 percent in July 2007. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Wisconsin occurred in October 1997 when the labor force participation rate hit 74.8 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 67.9 percent in August 2015. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in March 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 65.3 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Wisconsin civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 66.1 percent in March from 65.8 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 8 have higher employment-to-

**Wisconsin and U.S. Labor Force Participation (Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)**



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

population ratios than Wisconsin. The employment-to-population ratio in Wisconsin is 0.7 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Wisconsin was 67.3 percent in May 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Wisconsin occurred in December 1997 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 72.2 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.1 percent in February 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in April 1983 when the employment-to-population ratio was 60.4 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

